

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Claims 1-4: CANCELLED

5. (Previously Presented) A flux coating apparatus comprising:

a pair of feed rollers to be rotated in opposite directions while remaining in contact with each other;

an inlet section disposed above a contact portion between said pair of feed rollers so as to store a coating material comprising a fluid mixture containing flux;

a dam member disposed along and in sliding contact with end faces of the pair of feed rollers so as to prevent the coating material from flowing laterally from said inlet section; and

a pair of endless coating belts which are spaced at a required interval so as to be mutually opposed and rotated in opposite directions, wherein at least one of said pair of feed rollers is in contact with at least one of said pair of endless coating belts, thereby transferring the coating material to a surface of said endless coating belt, and wherein the surface of the endless coating belt coated with the coating material comes into contact with an introduced component to be coated with the coating material, to thereby coat a surface of the component with the coating material during a course of feeding of the component in a single direction.

6. (Original) A flux coating apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising a flux guide for collecting the coating material adhering to the surface of said endless coating belt to a required width.

7. (Original) A flux coating apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said pair of endless coating belt comprises a lower endless coating belt and an upper endless coating belt to be mutually opposed in a vertical direction, said lower endless coating belt extends longer than said upper endless coating belt in a direction from which the component is introduced, to thereby constitute a component inlet section for receiving the component.

8. (Original) A flux coating apparatus according to claim 5, wherein a pair of said dam members are disposed on both opposite ends of said pair of feed rollers.

9. (Original) A flux coating apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said endless coating belt comprises elastic material so that the surface of the endless coating belt comes into elastic contact with the introduced component.
10. (Original) A flux coating apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising a pair of presser plates for pressing opposing portions of said endless coating belts against the introduced component.
11. (Original) A flux coating apparatus according to claim 10, wherein a clearance between the pair of presser plates in a vicinity of a component inlet side is set greater than a height of the introduced component.
12. (Original) A flux coating apparatus according to claim 11, wherein end portions at the component inlet side of respective presser plates are tapered outward.
13. (Original) A flux coating apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said pair of presser plates are vertically adjustable.
14. (Previously presented) A flux coating apparatus comprising:
  - a pair of endless coating belts which are vertically spaced at a predetermined interval so as to be mutually opposed and rotated in opposite directions, said endless coating belts being brought into contact with top peaks of an aluminum corrugated fin for a heat exchanger to be introduced between a clearance between opposing portions of said endless coating belts, and applying a coating material comprising a fluid mixture containing flux to the top peaks during a course of feeding the corrugated fin in a single direction; and
  - a pair of pressure plates for pressing the opposing portions of said endless coating belts against the top peaks of the corrugated component.

15. (Previously presented) A flux coating apparatus according to claim 14, wherein a clearance between the pair of pressure plates in a vicinity of a fin inlet side is set greater than a height of the corrugated component.
16. (Previously presented) A flux coating apparatus according to claim 15, wherein end portions at the fin inlet side of respective pressure plates are tapered outward.
17. (Original) A flux coating apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said pair of presser plates are vertically adjustable.
18. (Previously presented) A flux coating apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said endless coating belt comprises elastic material so that the surface of the endless coating belt is elastically brought into contact with the top peaks of the corrugated fin.
19. (Previously presented) A method for manufacturing a heat exchanger, comprising the steps of:
  - applying a coating material comprising a fluid mixture containing flux exclusively to top peaks of corrugated fins;
  - stacking a plurality of said corrugated fins and a plurality of flat tubes in an alternating manner to thereby constitute a core;
  - inserting ends of said flat tubes of the core into tube insertion holes of header tanks;
  - and
  - heating the core, thereby brazing together the top peaks of the corrugated fins and the flat tubes.
20. (Previously presented) A method for manufacturing a heat exchanger according to claim 19, further comprising a step of applying the coating material to one of peripheral edges of the tube insertion holes formed in the header tanks and the ends of the flat tubes before said heating, so that the peripheral edges of the tube insertion holes of the header tanks and the ends of the respective flat tubes are brazed during said heating step.

21. (Previously presented) A method for manufacturing a heat exchanger according to claim 19, wherein the coating material is applied to the top peaks of said corrugated fins as the fins pass between a pair of endless coating belts.

22. (Currently Amended) A flux coating apparatus comprising:

a pair of endless coating belts which are vertically spaced at a predetermined interval so as to be mutually opposed and rotated in opposite directions, said endless coating belts being brought into contact with an upwardly projecting surface of an aluminum component to be introduced between a clearance between opposing portions of said endless coating belts, wherein the apparatus is configured to apply a coating material comprising a fluid mixture containing flux to the upwardly projecting surface during a course of feeding the aluminum component ~~corrugated fin~~ in a single direction; and

a pair of pressure plates for pressing the opposing portions of said endless coating belts against the upwardly projecting surface of the component.

23. (Currently Amended) A flux coating apparatus according to claim 14, wherein a clearance between the pair of pressure plates in a vicinity of a component inlet side is set greater than a height of the ~~corrugated~~ component.

24. (Previously Presented) A flux coating apparatus according to claim 15, wherein end portions at the component inlet side of respective pressure plates are tapered outward.

25. (Previously Presented) A flux coating apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said endless coating belt comprises elastic material so that the surface of the endless coating belt is elastically brought into contact with the upwardly projecting surface of the corrugated fin.